TITLE: ARTE (MANGA)
CHAPTER 11: A CUMBERSOME CLIENT, PART 2
TRANSCRIPT OF MACHINE-TRANSLATION
OF FRENCH EDITION: STRAWEVE.WORDPRESS.COM

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I HAVE ALSO COMPILED IT IN THIS FORMAT DUE TO THE SOMEWHAT UNCERTAIN STATUS OF THIS MANGA'S OFFICIAL ENGLISH TRANSLATION. IN LIEU OF CHAPTERS 11-15 BEING MADE ACCESSIBLE AND/OR AVAILABLE, I'M RATHER KEEN TO FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENS NEXT. HOPEFULLY, THIS WILL HELP MAKE THE WAITING A LITTLE EASIER.

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-Arte!

-Arte, how are you? I'm so glad to see you again!
-Veronica! I'm so sorry to bother you...
-Are you in the middle of something? -Me?
-But not at all! Don't you worry about that!

-What brings you here? Did you want to borrow more books?
-Uh...
-Well... actually...
-Veronica, I... I have a favour to ask you...
-Oh?
-Negotiate? With Ubertino?

-It seems to me... Leo gives you the most difficult assignments...
-It's not that... I asked him to entrust me with this task...
-Veronica... you seem to know Signor Ubertino well...
-Of course! In my line of work, you get to know the elite of Florentine society!
-Though... I don't have the honour of having him as a client...
-Let's see now...
-This man started out as a simple wool merchant... before venturing into mining, real estate, and the salt & spice business... He also does banking, which is rare for a trader of his stature... From a modest family of merchants, he succeeded in building his fortune in a single generation!

-In short... it will be hard to negotiate with this man! -I... I never knew all this about him...
-Well?
-What would you like me to do... Arte? That is why you came to see me, is it not?
-Do you want me to sway Ubertino, so he'll be well disposed towards you? Or... would you rather I get someone in his circle to support your case?
-Uhh... no...
-Actually, I would like...

-I would like you to teach me... how to conduct a negotiation!
-In your profession, Veronica... you know the art of swinging a conversation in your favour... And so...
-I beg you... Please, please teach me your ways!!
-Pfft

-Ha ha ha ha! Never could I imagine... that I would be asked to teach others my trade! -Eh? -You really are an amusing girl, Arte!
-[Ahem] Anyway...
-I will be more than happy... to accept your request, dear friend!
-Just to clarify... You want to know how to speak and behave so Ubertino will take you seriously and agree to re-negotiate, correct?
-[Mm-hmm]
-We will begin your lesson tomorrow...

-I'll teach you all you need to know...
-R-Really? Oh, thank you! Thank you!
-I'm so... [Growl] [Rumble]
-Oh dear... You haven't eaten yet, Arte? It's way past lunch time!
-Uh, it's not that...
-Leo, fasting?

-Today is Friday, yes, but... [Hmm] -You don't fast, do you Veronica? -Who, me? I just had meat earlier! Only the pious sort fast nowadays... -That's what I thought...
-Is Leo that devout?
-Well, call me surprised! [GOSSIP] That's not his thing, is it? -You're right. Not like him at all...
-But then, why would he... be fasting? He doesn't appear to be short of money...
-[Growl]
-Oh! Stay here, Arte!

-Here... Would you like some? Take them! -Oh, these look so good!
-They're called "dragees"... These were offered to me, but I'm giving them to you... -What!? Are you sure you don't mind? -Of course not!
-Besides, I have too many already, and instead of throwing them away or handing them out to just anyone... I prefer to give them to a dear friend. I'm sure the person who offered them would agree.
-Thank... Thank you very much...
-[Crunch]

-These taste so good... [Mmm]
-I'm gonna give it my all!
-I'm gonna do it!! [One week later...]

-You again, little girl?
-And what brings you here? If you wanna talk about the damn contract...
-just go home!

-Signor Ubertino...
-I apologize for bothering you the other day, for I was ill-prepared to negotiate.

-Today... I've come to discuss how to best dispel your concerns as a valued client...
-Tsk! Go on, I'm listening!
-I thank you! -You begin by standing upright...
-Straighten your bust and tuck in your chin... Like so... You need to look like you're confident... Never forget to smile... and don't gesticulate! If you're anxious, those gestures become awkward... You must speak and move calmly...

-Continue to smile, even if words fail you... It's even better if you remain silent... Let the person guess what you're thinking about...
-Arte...
-Are you satisfied with being a painter? -Huh?
-Well, you seem happy in your chosen profession, even if you are badly paid... -Y-Yes...
-Well, you're wrong! -What!?
-Because then, you'd be implying that your works... are of little worth...

-If that's the ease, why bother charging people at all? Be assured of your ability to provide the client with a high degree of satisfaction and to be paid accordingly...
-Especially if... you offer a truly exceptional service!
-About your contract... The amount indicated is insufficient with regard to the materials required...
-You want me to repeat myself? We've discussed this already!

-[Slam]
-I know fully well the prices of the different inks...
-And I tell you that the amount I offer is more than reasonable!
-Oh, but Signor Ubertino... This amount is insufficient... It really isn't!
-Huh? What do you mean?

-You and Leo... do you two always extract money from your clients unduly? -Arte...
-be assured of your ability.
-What would be the point... of using expensive inks... like gold, silver and blue... if the hands that apply them are devoid of talent? Your painting won't even be worth the price of the inks themselves...

-My master and I... are both certain to produce a work of great value that would merit greater remuneration...
-Tsk...
-You know...
-I come from... a noble family...
-Oh yes?
-So? That doesn't mean I'm paying you more!
-Of course not... But I would like you to have a look at this.

-Embroidery designs?
-Hmm... These look very intricate.
-They're my sketches... -Huh!?
-As with other girls from upper class families... I was taught to embroider.
-Now, how many painters in Florence can boast about knowing lacework? And how many are able to reproduce the same finesse on canvas? I committed to memory several dozens of lace patterns... the knowledge of which I am able to make use of in my works...
-Signor Ubertino...

-Believe me when I say...
-I can bring greatly added value to your painting!
-Did it work?
-Tsk...

-C'mon then, give me your new contract! I'll sign it off for you! But... I won't go easy should your painting fail to satisfy me entirely!
-You... you mean you agree!?
-I thank you so very... -And drop the funny act will you!?
-It doesn't suit you the least bit! Good grief... What did you do take classes from a cortigiana?

-Uhh... t-thank you... [BACK TO USUAL SELF] -Let's have a look...
-At these rates... you'll end up ruining me...
-There's no expense more worthless than "works of art"...
-But... don't you have a collection in your drawing room...? -Oh, that's just to impress my clients... Tools for my work, as it were... If it came down to personal taste, I wouldn't even bother with them!
-To impress clients... So that's why... the drawing room is so luxurious... compared to the plainness of his study...
-Uhh, you... you mean to say that...

-I don't find paintings appealing in any way whatsoever!
-They don't move me at all... I just know what kind of paintings people tend to appreciate!
-Nnn...
-What!? Are you shocked by this?
-Did you think art works are commissioned only by art lovers? -Eh!? No, no! Course not!
-Art paintings have always served as gifts to the powerful... or as offerings to the Church... The rich do not acquire them for the love of art... but as instruments to serve their interests!

-There will be others like me whom you'll meet... people who don't understand art.
-If you get offended every single time... you will be bitterly disappointed in this profession!
-Then...
-As a painter... I'm going to have to deal with people who aren't interested in art... Is that so? -Hmm? Oh yes... yes, indeed...
-Well, then...

-All in good time! I should like to draw paintings that even they can appreciate!
-Yes?
-Uhh...
-Ha!
-Bwa ha ha ha!
-All in good time!! You said it, little girl! Hahahaha! -Eh? I'm sarry?

-Uhh... He burst out laughing when I'm trying to be serious...
-You may only be a young apprentice... but I already sensed in you a mighty big personality the other day...
-Leo does have flair. I will admit... by taking under his wing a girl who is as funny as she is tenacious!
-[I'm funny?] Uhh... I take it that was a compliment? -In any case, I like you a lot, little girl!
-Thank you...

-I take my leave.
-Yes!
-Mission accomplished!
-I successfully negotiated with Signor Ubertino! And on my own, no less! Hip hip hoora...
-Oh!

-I almost forgot! Uh... Signor Ubertino!
-I have a favour to ask if I may! -Yes?
-You dream about it that much? I'll never understand you art lovers...
-All right then! -Oh thank you!
-This is it! -This is what I wanted to see!

-This... superb collection in your drawing room...
-Amazing! Paintings everywhere... it's beautiful! -Is it really that exciting? I really can't understand...
-Absolutely! I mean... if I could take in every single canvas, it would take hours!
-'Cos all these paintings... make me wanna... Huh?

-Wait... I feel like I recognize...
-I see master Leo's style in all the canvases in this room. What am I saying?
-Are these all... master Leo's paintings?

-I see that you appreciate enormously the work of my master Signor Ubertino. -How do you mean?
-Well, these are all master Leo's works... aren't they?
-You think these are here because I enjoy them!? He's just an old acquaintance. [Grrr] and one that I can't get rid of! -Yikes! He looks real angry!!
-Furthermore...
-More than half of these paintings were done by Leo's master... -What!?